

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. A computer implemented method for locating and presenting electronic content, comprising:

presenting a user with a list of question words;

acquiring the identity of a question word selected by the user;

presenting a user with a list of question syntax forms associated with the selected question word;

acquiring the identity of a question syntax form selected by the user;

acquiring data from the user to combine with the selected question syntax form to construct a question;

searching an electronic database for an answer to said question; and

communicating said answer to the user.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein acquiring data from the user comprises:

providing the user with a list of fill-ins for combination with the selected question syntax form; and

receiving a selected fill-in from the list of fill-ins as the data for combining with the selected question syntax form to construct the question.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein acquiring data from the user comprises:

receiving text from the user as the data for combining with the selected question syntax form to construct the question.

4. The method of claim 3 further comprising:

comparing the received text to predefined fill-ins;

generating synonyms to the text when the text fails to match one of the predefined fill-ins; and

transmitting information for further assistance to the user when the generated synonyms fail to match one of the predefined fill-ins.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein transmitting information includes providing a telephone number.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the selected question syntax form and the data.

5 7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:  
updating the list of question syntax forms based on the stored selected question syntax form and obtained data.

8. The method of claim 6, further comprising:  
receiving text from the user as the data for combining with the selected question  
10 syntax form to construct the question; and  
revising the predefined fill-ins based upon the stored received text.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the question words are selected from a group consisting of at least one of the following: can, does, is, how, what, which, where, why, who, and when.

15 10. A computer program product for use in conjunction with a computer system, the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage medium and a computer program mechanism embedded therein, the computer program mechanism comprising:

a question generating procedure comprising:

instructions for presenting a user with a list of question words;

20 instructions for acquiring the identity of a question word selected by the user;

instructions for presenting a user with a list of question syntax forms

associated with the selected question word;

instructions for acquiring the identity of a question syntax form selected by the user; and

instructions for acquiring data from the user to combine with the selected question syntax form to construct a question; and

a question processing procedure comprising:

instructions for searching an electronic database for an answer to said

5 question; and

instructions for communicating said answer to the user.

11. The computer program product of claim 10, wherein the question generating procedure further comprises:

10 instructions for providing the user with a list of fill-ins for combination with the selected question syntax form; and

instructions for receiving a selected fill-in from the list of fill-ins as the data for combining with the selected question syntax form to construct the question.

12. The computer program product of claim 10, wherein the question generating procedure further comprises instructions for receiving text from the user as the data for combining with the selected question syntax form to construct the question.

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13. The computer program product of claim 12, wherein the question processing procedure further comprises:

instructions for comparing the received text to predefined fill-ins;

20 instructions for generating synonyms to the text when the text fails to match one of the predefined fill-ins; and

instructions for transmitting information for further assistance to the user when the generated synonyms fail to match one of the predefined fill-ins.

14. The computer program product of claim 10 further comprising a question tracking procedure comprising instructions for storing the selected question syntax form and the obtained data.

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15. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the question tracking procedure further comprises instructions for revising the list of question syntax forms based on the stored selected question syntax form and data.

15. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the question tracking procedure further comprises instructions for revising the list of question syntax forms based on the stored selected question syntax form and data.